

1 **In the Claims**

2 Claims 6, 12, 36, 46, 69, 74, 78, 80 and 88 are amended.

3 Claims 2-7, 9-13, 36-59 and 69-95 remain in the application and are listed
4 below:

5
6 1. (Cancelled).

7
8 2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 further comprising
9 automatically removing said at least one command from the display responsive to
10 a change in the user's context.

11
12 3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the
13 application program comprises a document-centric application program and said
14 displaying does not obscure a document in which the user is working.

15
16 4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the
17 application program comprises a document-centric application program and said at
18 least one command is displayed in a modeless fashion in which the user can
19 continue to work within a document while said at least one command is displayed.

20
21 5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 further comprising
22 after said displaying, executing a command without requiring any action from a
23 user other than selecting the command.
24
25

1 6. (Currently Amended) A method of exposing commands in a
2 software application program comprising:

3 determining a user's context within an application program by ascertaining
4 a position of a user's cursor within a document provided by the application
5 program; and

6 automatically displaying at least one command on a display for the user
7 based on the user's context, wherein said automatically displaying is
8 accomplished, at least in part, using tree-based visibility expressions, wherein
9 individual expressions define conditions associated with a user's interaction with
10 the document and which are used to ascertain when to display said at least one
11 command, and wherein individual expressions are represented in a tree data
12 structure having one or more children nodes, said tree structure evaluating to
13 either true or false based at least in part upon the values of said one or more
14 children nodes.

15
16 7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said
17 determining comprises ascertaining a user's selection within a document provided
18 by the application program.

19
20 8. (Cancelled).

21
22 9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said context
23 pertains to various tasks the user may attempt to accomplish.

1 10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said context
2 further pertains to one or more of the following: a type of document the user is
3 working in; and a state of a document the user is working in.

4
5 11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said
6 displaying is independent of a user selecting any displayed menu item.

7
8 12. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media having
9 computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer,
10 cause the computer to:

11 determine a user's context within an application program;
12 automatically display, independent of the user selecting any displayed
13 menu item, at least one command on a display for the user based on the user's
14 context, said at least one command being displayed in a modeless fashion in which
15 the user can continue to work within a document provided by the application
16 program while said at least one command is displayed; and

17 automatically remove said at least one command from the user's display
18 responsive to a change in the user's context,

19 wherein said automatically display and automatically remove are
20 accomplished, at least in part, using tree-based visibility expressions, wherein
21 individual expressions define conditions associated with a user's interaction with
22 the application and are used to ascertain when to display said at least one
23 command, and wherein individual expressions are represented in a tree data
24 structure which evaluates to either true or false based upon the value of one or
25 more children nodes in the tree data structure.

1
2 13. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 12, wherein the
3 computer determines the user's context by one or more of the following:

4 ascertaining a position of a user's cursor within a document provided by the
5 application program; and

6 ascertaining a user's selection within a document provided by the
7 application program.

8
9 14.-35. (Cancelled).

10
11 36. (Currently Amended) A method of exposing commands in a
12 software application program comprising:

13 determining a user's context within an application program by evaluating at
14 least portions of one or more expressions, each expression being associated with a
15 context block and defining a condition that describes one or more aspects of a
16 user's interaction with the application program, wherein individual expressions
17 comprise tree-based visibility expressions, and wherein individual tree-based
18 visibility expressions are boolean expressions represented in a tree data structure;
19 and

20 automatically displaying, independent of a user selecting any displayed
21 menu item, at least one context block on a display for the user based on the user's
22 context, individual context blocks containing multiple commands that are possible
23 selections for a user based upon their context.

1 37. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein the expressions evaluate
2 to Boolean values.

3
4 38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein a user's
5 context can be affected by one or more of the following: a document type, a
6 document state, and objects within a document that can be selected by the user.

7
8 39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said
9 displaying comprises displaying a context block having a title bar area that labels
10 the context block.

11
12 40. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein the title bar area is
13 configured to enable the context block to be toggled between expanded and
14 collapsed states.

15
16 41. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein the title bar area
17 comprises a menu display button that is configured to enable a menu that is
18 associated with the context block to be displayed.

19
20 42. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the menu display button
21 is associated with a menu that contains links to one or more context panes, each
22 context pane comprising additional context-sensitive commands.

1 43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said
2 displaying comprises displaying a context block with a controls area that exposes
3 the multiple commands to the user.

4
5 44. (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein a command display
6 within the controls area is defined in HTML.

7
8 45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said
9 displaying comprises displaying said at least one context block in a modeless
10 fashion.

11
12 46. (Currently Amended) A method of exposing commands in a
13 software application program comprising:

14 determining a user's context within an application program without
15 requiring the user to make a menu selection, wherein said determining is
16 accomplished, at least in part, using tree-based visibility expressions, wherein
17 individual tree-based visibility expressions define conditions that describe a user's
18 interactions with said application program, and wherein individual tree-based
19 visibility expressions are represented in a tree data structure having one or more
20 children nodes, said tree structure evaluating to either true or false based at least in
21 part upon the values of said one or more children nodes;

22 based on the user's context, displaying commands that are associated with
23 the context and which can assist the user in accomplishing a task; and

24 while the commands are being displayed, enabling the user to select and
25 apply various commands multiple times.

1
2 47. (Original) The method of claim 46 further comprising applying one
3 or more selected commands, when selected by a user, without further user
4 interaction.

5
6 48. (Original) The method of claim 46, wherein said displaying
7 comprises displaying the commands responsive to the user selecting from a menu
8 that is supported by an automatically-appearing and disappearing context block
9 that contains context-sensitive commands.

10
11 49. (Original) The method of claim 46, wherein said displaying
12 comprises displaying the commands in a modeless manner.

13
14 50. (Original) The method of claim 46, wherein said displaying
15 comprises displaying the commands within a context pane having a title bar that
16 labels the context pane and a controls area that exposes the commands to the user.

17
18 51. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the context pane is not
19 collapsible.

20
21 52. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the context pane must
22 be closed by the user.

23
24 53. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the user must request
25 the context pane to be displayed.

1
2 54. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein some of the commands
3 in the controls area can be context-sensitive and are disabled if they are out of
4 context.

5
6 55. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the context pane
7 includes a context-sensitive help feature that displays help information that is
8 contextually related to a context pane.

9
10 56. (Original) The method of claim 55, wherein the help feature is
11 accessible via an icon on the title bar.

12
13 57. (Original) The method of claim 55, wherein the help feature is
14 displayed in a modeless manner.

15
16 58. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein multiple context panes
17 are stackable in a queue.

18
19 59. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having computer-
20 readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, implement the
21 method of claim 46.

22
23 60.-68. (Cancelled).

24
25 69. (Currently Amended) A computing system comprising:

1 a single application program configured to provide:
2 a single navigable window;
3 multiple different functionalities to which the single navigable window can
4 be navigated by a user; and
5 at least one context-sensitive command area that is associated with the
6 single navigable window, the single application program being configured to
7 automatically change command sets that are presented to the user within the
8 command area as the user navigates to different functionalities, at least some
9 commands of the command sets being displayable independent of the user
10 selecting any displayed menu item and as a function of one or more tree-based
11 visibility expressions that define conditions that describe a user's interactions with
12 the single application program, wherein individual tree-based visibility
13 expressions are boolean expressions represented in a tree data structure.

14
15 70. (Original) The computing system of claim 69, wherein the single
16 application program is configured to provide navigation instrumentalities
17 associated with the single navigable window, the navigation instrumentalities
18 being configured for use by the user to navigate the single window to the different
19 functionalities.

20
21 71. (Original) The computing system of claim 70, wherein one of the
22 navigation instrumentalities comprises links associated with each of the multiple
23 different functionalities to which the single navigable window can be navigated.
24
25

1 72. (Original) The computing system of claim 70, wherein one of the
2 navigation instrumentalities comprises browser-like navigation buttons that can be
3 used, in connection with the navigation model, to navigate the single navigable
4 window between the different functionalities.

5
6 73. (Original) The computing system of claim 69, wherein the multiple
7 different functionalities comprise document-centric functionalities.

8
9 74. (Currently Amended) A computing system comprising:
10 a single application program embodied on a computer-readable medium,
11 the single application being configured to:

12 display a single navigable window for a user to use in navigating between
13 multiple different functionalities that can be provided by the single application
14 program;

15 provide at least one context-sensitive command area that is associated with
16 the single navigable window, the single application program automatically
17 changing command sets that are presented to the user within the command area as
18 the user navigates to different functionalities, at least some commands of the
19 command sets being displayable independent of the user selecting any displayed
20 menu item and as a function of one or more tree-based visibility expressions that
21 define conditions that describe a user's interactions with the single application
22 program, wherein individual tree-based visibility expressions are boolean
23 expressions represented in a tree data structure; and

1 incorporate different functionalities in an extensible manner so that the user
2 can use the single navigable window to navigate to the different incorporated
3 functionalities.

4
5 75. (Original) The computing system of claim 74, wherein the single
6 application program is configured to provide navigation instrumentalities
7 associated with the single navigable window, the navigation instrumentalities
8 being configured for use by the user to navigate the single window to the different
9 functionalities.

10
11 76. (Original) The computing system of claim 75, wherein one of the
12 navigation instrumentalities comprises links associated with each of the multiple
13 different functionalities to which the single navigable window can be navigated.

14
15 77. (Original) The computing system of claim 75, wherein one of the
16 navigation instrumentalities comprises browser-like navigation buttons that can be
17 used to navigate the single navigable window between different functionalities.

18
19 78. (Currently Amended) A computing method comprising:
20 displaying a user interface that comprises a single navigable window that
21 can be navigated between multiple different functionalities that are provided by a
22 single application program;

23 receiving user input that indicates selection of a particular functionality;
24 responsive to receiving said user input, navigating the single navigable
25 window to the particular selected functionality and displaying in said window

1 indicia of said functionality that can enable a user to accomplish a task associated
2 with the particular selected functionality;

3 determining a user's context within the selected functionality using one or
4 more tree-based visibility expressions, wherein individual tree-based expressions
5 define conditions associated with a user's interaction with said selected
6 functionality, and wherein individual tree-based visibility expressions are boolean
7 expressions represented in a tree data structure; and

8 automatically displaying at least one command for the user based on the
9 user's context independent of the user selecting any displayed menu item.

10
11 79. (Original) The computing method of claim 78 further comprising
12 automatically removing said at least one command from the display responsive to
13 change in the user's context.

14
15 80. (Currently Amended) A method of exposing commands in a
16 software application program comprising:

17 determining a user's context within an application program by ascertaining
18 a user's selection within a document provided by the application program and by
19 using one or more tree-based visibility expressions, wherein individual
20 expressions define conditions associated with a user's interaction with said
21 document, and wherein individual tree-based visibility expressions are represented
22 in a tree data structure which evaluates to either true or false based upon the value
23 of one or more children nodes in the tree data structure; and

24 automatically displaying at least one command on a display for the user
25 based on the user's context.

1
2 81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80 further comprising
3 automatically removing said at least one command from the display responsive to
4 a change in the user's context.
5

6 82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80, wherein the
7 application program comprises a document-centric application program and said
8 displaying does not obscure a document in which the user is working.
9

10 83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80, wherein the
11 application program comprises a document-centric application program and said at
12 least one command is displayed in a modeless fashion in which the user can
13 continue to work within a document while said at least one command is displayed.
14

15 84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80 further comprising
16 after said displaying, executing a command without requiring any action from a
17 user other than selecting the command.
18

19 85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80, wherein said
20 context pertains to various tasks the user may attempt to accomplish.
21

22 86. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80, wherein said
23 context further pertains to one or more of the following: a type of document the
24 user is working in and a state of a document the user is working in.
25

1 87. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80, wherein said
2 displaying is independent of a user selecting any displayed menu item.

3
4 88. (Currently Amended) A method of exposing commands in a
5 software application program comprising:

6 determining a user's context within an application program using, at least in
7 part, one or more tree-based visibility expressions, wherein individual expressions
8 define conditions associated with a user's interaction with the application
9 program, and wherein individual expressions are represented in a tree data
10 structure having one or more children nodes, said tree structure evaluating to
11 either true or false based at least in part upon the values of said one or more
12 children nodes; and

13 automatically displaying at least one command on a display for the user
14 based on the user's context, independent of a user selecting any displayed menu
15 item.

16
17 89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 88 further comprising
18 automatically removing said at least one command from the display responsive to
19 a change in the user's context.

20
21 90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 88, wherein the
22 application program comprises a document-centric application program and said
23 displaying does not obscure a document in which the user is working.

1 91. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 88, wherein the
2 application program comprises a document-centric application program and said at
3 least one command is displayed in a modeless fashion in which the user can
4 continue to work within a document while said at least one command is displayed.

5
6 92. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 88 further comprising
7 after said displaying, executing a command without requiring any action from a
8 user other than selecting the command.

9
10 93. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 88, wherein said
11 context pertains to various tasks the user may attempt to accomplish.

12
13 94. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 88, wherein said
14 context pertains to one or more of the following: a type of document the user is
15 working in and a state of a document the user is working in.

16
17 95. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein each
18 individual expression is represented in a different tree data structure.